PATENT
Case FR-6842-C

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#5/A

JOHN C. PARKS, ET AL.	)	
SERIAL NO.: 09/888,246	)	GROUP ART UNIT: 1616
FILED: JUNE 22, 2001	)	
	)	EXAMINER: BADIO, B.
IMPROVED BROMINATION PROCESS	)	

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

AMENDMENT AND REPLY PURSUANT TO 37 CFR § 1.111

In reply to the non-final Office Action mailed on October 24, 2001, Applicants hereby amend the above application as follows:

In the Description:

Replace paragarph 25 on page 7 with the following paragraph:

A1

[0025] The molar ratio of bromine to diphenylethane used to form the desired mixture lies within the range of from about 5:1 to about 30:1, and preferably within the range of from about 7.5:1 to about 25:1. Most preferably, the molar ratio lies within the range of from about 9:1 to about 25:1. Most highly preferred is a ratio within the range of about 10:1 to 15:1. Molar ratios in excess of 30:1 may be used; however, such excess ratios will result in more liquid bromine being present after the reaction and thus, higher attendant costs for the bromine recovery step.

In the Claims:

Amend Claim 5 to read as follows:

A2

5. (Once amended) A dried and ground, solid brominated diphenylethane product mixture having an average particle size of about 3 to about 5 microns, containing at least about 90 wt% decabromodiphenylethane, having a content of about 700 to about 1000 ppm of occluded free bromine, and having a yellowness index in the range of about 12.5 to about 17.5.

Amend Claim 6 to read as follows: